



# Arizona Department of Public Safety

**- For Immediate Release -**

Thursday, January 22, 2009

## **Arizona Department of Public Safety State Crime Lab implements new DNA technique that could solve countless unsolved cases** *Arizona is one of two states to implement the new procedure*

The Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Crime Laboratory System has implemented a new DNA technique that can:

- Increase DNA detection limits up to ten times
- Yield full DNA profiles from evidence samples which previously had no usable results with traditional DNA analysis

The new technique will greatly benefit the Arizona Criminal Justice System as cases which previously had no reportable DNA results can now yield DNA profiles for comparison to suspects or entry into CODIS (Combined DNA Index System) for searching the Arizona and national DNA databases. This new technique will help the following:

- Trace DNA cases
- Cold cases
- Bone (missing persons) cases
- Partial DNA profiles, previously unable to be uploaded to CODIS
- Post conviction cases

DPS is currently examining six criminal cases which produced no results or partial results to see if these cases would benefit from the new DNA procedure.

State Senator Chuck Gray R-Mesa is very supportive of the new procedure and is available for comment at the State Capitol.

**A media availability with State Crime Laboratory Superintendent Todd Griffith reference the new technique will be held:**

**Thursday, January 22, 2009**

**2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**DPS Headquarters, 2102 W. Encanto Blvd in Phoenix**

**(media outlets needing an interview please respond back to [pio@azdps.gov](mailto:pio@azdps.gov))**

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